



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD

CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590



REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

C-14J

March 18, 2003

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. Stephen V. Moser
Associate General Counsel
Mead Corporation
Courthouse Plaza, Northwest
Dayton, OH 45463

Re: Request for Information Pursuant to Section 104(e) of CERCLA for the Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site in Kalamazoo and Allegan Counties, Michigan

Dear Mr. Moser:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("U.S. EPA" or the "Agency") has been supplementing the investigation conducted by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality at the Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site (the "Site"), which is located in Allegan and Kalamazoo Counties, Michigan. U.S. EPA believes that Mead Corporation ("Mead") may have information that is relevant to this investigation.

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601 *et seq.* ("CERCLA") gives U.S. EPA the authority to: (1) assess contaminated sites; (2) determine the threats to human health and the environment; and (3) clean up contaminated sites. Under Section 104(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e), U.S. EPA has the authority to gather information and to require persons to furnish information or documents relating to:

- A. The identification, nature and quantity of materials which have been or are generated, treated, stored or disposed of at a vessel or facility or transported to a vessel or facility;
- B. The nature or extent of a release or a threatened release of a hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant at/or from a vessel or facility; and

C. The ability of responsible parties to pay for the costs of the clean up.

One area of investigation concerns the amount and sources of PCBs released to the Kalamazoo River. PCBs were used in the manufacture of "no-carbon required" or "NCR" paper during the period 1954 to 1971. PCBs were introduced directly into the secondary fiber recycle stream through the recycling of broke produced in the manufacture of NCR paper, and through the recycling of converter trim from processors of NCR paper. PCBs were introduced indirectly into the secondary fiber recycle stream through the recycling of post-consumer waste paper containing NCR paper.

U.S. EPA understands that, between 1954 and 1971, Mead produced NCR paper coated with emulsions containing PCBs at its paper coating mill located in Chillicothe, Ohio (the "Chillicothe mill."). The Agency is attempting to determine to what extent Mead may have sold, either directly or indirectly through waste paper brokers, NCR paper broke generated at the Chillicothe mill to any of the secondary fiber pulp and paper mills located within the Kalamazoo River area of Michigan. Attachment A contains a list of known paper mills in the Kalamazoo River area, but it may be that Mead is aware of other mills in that area that purchased or obtained NCR paper broke from the company.

For purposes of this request, U.S. EPA defines "NCR paper broke" to include side trim from rolls of NCR paper, roll ends, machine brakes, off-specification NCR paper scrapped at the mill and customer returns not resold as a commercial grade of NCR paper. Unless otherwise specified, the relevant time period includes those years when Mead produced NCR paper coated with any emulsion containing PCBs at the Chillicothe mill.

U.S. EPA requires that Mead provide the following information and data as soon as possible, but not later than sixty (60) days from the date of receipt of this Information Request.

1. Provide the month and year when NCR paper coated with any emulsion containing PCBs was first produced at the Chillicothe mill; the month and year when NCR paper coated with any emulsion containing PCBs was last produced at the Chillicothe mill; the amount of finished NCR paper shipped from the Chillicothe mill annually; and the amount of broke generated by the Chillicothe mill annually.
2. Identify each shipment of NCR paper broke from the Chillicothe mill that was sent, directly or indirectly through a waste paper broker, to any of the secondary fiber pulp and paper mills located within the Kalamazoo River area of Michigan. For each such shipment, identify: (a) the date (month and year) of the shipment; (b) the amount (in pounds) of NCR paper broke shipped; and (c) the name and address of the entity to which the shipment was sent.

3. Provide the dates (month and year) and amounts in pounds of NCR paper broke shipped from the Chillicothe mill, either directly or indirectly, to company-owned waste paper brokers (e.g. Mead Paper Sales) and to other waste paper brokers.
4. To the extent available, provide the current names, addresses and phone numbers for each waste paper broker to which NCR paper broke was shipped from the Chillicothe mill during the relevant period.

Pursuant to the authority of Section 104(e) of CERCLA you are requested to respond to this Information Request. This Request is not intended to be duplicative of prior Information Requests, but rather supplements the earlier Information Requests and seeks additional information. Compliance with Information Requests under Section 104(e) of CERCLA is mandatory. Failure to respond fully and truthfully within sixty (60) days after receipt of this letter, or to justify adequately any failure to respond, can result in enforcement action pursuant to Section 104(e)(5) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e)(5).

This Information Request is directed to you, your company, its officers, directors and employees, and its subsidiaries, divisions, facilities and their officers, directors and employees. This Information Request is not subject to the approval requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, 44 U.S.C. § 3501 *et seq.*

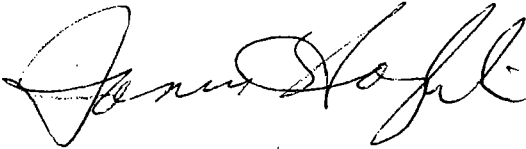
Please mail your response within sixty (60) days after your receipt of this Information Request to:

Ms. Eileen L. Furey
Associate Regional Counsel (C-14J)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3507

Please direct any questions you may have regarding this Information Request to Ms. Furey at (312) 886-7950, or Ms. Renita Ford, U.S. Department of Justice at (202) 305-0232.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janice S. Loughlin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Janice" being more prominent.

Janice S. Loughlin
Section Chief, Multi-Media Branch II
U.S. EPA Region 5

Attachment

cc: E. Furey (EPA)
M. Adams (EPA)
S. Kolak (EPA)
R. Ford (U.S. DOJ)
N. Gordon (MI Attorney General)
Mary-Lynn Taylor (DOI)

Attachment A

Kalamazoo River Area Secondary Fiber Paper Mills (Ownership as of 1971 to 1985 and former owners 1954 to 1971)

1. American Fibrit, Inc.
76 Armstrong Road
Battle Creek, MI 49015

2. St Regis Corporation
Recycled Fiber Division
Battle Creek Paperboard Mills
79 East Fountain Street
Battle Creek, MI 49017

a/k/a: St. Regis Company
Battle Creek Paperboard Mills

Michigan Carton Company
Mill No. 1

Michigan Paperboard Corp.

3. St Regis Corporation
Recycled Fiber Division
Battle Creek Paperboard Mills
177 Angell Street
Battle Creek, MI 49015

a/k/a: St. Regis Company
Battle Creek Paperboard Mills

Michigan Carton Company
Mill No. 2

Rock-Tenn Company

4. Georgia-Pacific Corporation
2425 King Highway
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

a/k/a: Kalamazoo Paper Company
5. Hawthorne Paper Company, Inc.
subsidiary, Gould Paper Corporation
King Highway
Kalamazoo, MI 49003

a/k/a: Hawthorne Paper Company

Gould Paper Corporation
6. Millennium Holdings, Inc.
subsidiary, SCM Corporation
Paper Mills Division
2030 Portage Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

a/k/a: Allied Paper Corporation
King Mill
Monarch Mill
Bryant Mill

Allied Paper Mills

7. Georgia-Pacific Corporation
Paper Packaging Group
243 East Patterson Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

a/k/a: James River Corporation

Brown Company
Pulp, Paper and Board Manufacturing Division

KVP Southerland Paper Company

Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company
Southerland Division

Southerland Paper Company

8. Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Company
Paper Products Division
Kalamazoo, MI 49003

9. National Gypsum Company
2305 East King Highway
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

10. Rex Paper Company
King Highway
Kalamazoo, MI

11. Mead Corporation
Paperboard Products Division
431 Helen Street
Otsego, MI 49078

a/k/a: Hoerner-Waldorf Corporation
Mac Sim Bar Mill

Mac Sim Bar
div., Waldorf paper Products Company

Mac Sim Bar Paper Products Company

Mac Sim Bar Paper Company
div., United Biscuit Company of America

12. Menasha Corporation
Paperboard Division
320 North Farmer Street
Otsego, MI 49078

a/k/a: Otsego Falls Paper Mills
div., Menasha Wooden Ware Corporation

Otsego Falls Paper Mills, Inc.

13. Georgia Pacific Corporation
KVP Group
Parchment and Paper Divisions
100 Island Avenue
Parchment, MI 49004

a/k/a: James River Corporation

Brown Company
Specialty papers Division

Brown Company
Paper Division

KVP Southerland Paper Company

Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company

14. Simpson Plainwell Paper Company
200 Allegan Street
Plainwell, MI 49080

a/k/a: Plainwell Paper Company
affl: Philip Morris Industrial Inc.

Plainwell Paper Company
div., Nicolet Paper Company

Weyerhaeuser Company
Plainwell Division

Hamilton Paper Company
sub., Weyerhaeuser Company

Michigan Paper Company of Plainwell
wholly-owned sub., W.C. Hamilton & Sons

15. Crown Vantage, Inc.
Parchment, Michigan